

## Dear Parent/Guardian,

In 2018, the Florida Legislature established Reading Scholarship Accounts to provide educational options for public school students in grades 3 through 5 who struggle with reading. Florida is the first state to offer an education savings account program for students enrolled in public schools. The program provides parents with access to education savings accounts, worth \$500 each, to pay for tuition and fees related to part-time tutoring in reading, summer and afterschool programs designed to improve reading or literacy skills, and instructional materials or curriculum related to reading and literacy. Step Up for Students (SUFS) is a private, nonprofit organization and an approved Scholarship Funding Organization (SFO) in the State of Florida.

Reading Scholarship Accounts are available to students who are enrolled in grades 3 through 5 in a Florida public school and who scored a level 1 or 2 on the third- or fourth-grade English Language Arts section of the Florida Standards Assessment in the prior year. Students who are classified as English Language Learners and who are enrolled in a program or receiving services that are specifically designed to meet the instructional needs of English Language Learner students will receive funding priority.

## Next Steps:

You may visit the following website to watch a helpful video before you begin your application: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djUCyOO1Qps&feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djUCyOO1Qps&feature=youtu.be</a>.

Visit the Step Up for Students website and then on the "Apply Now" button to apply for a Reading Scholarship for the 2019-20 school year <a href="http://www.stepupforstudents.org/for-parents/reading-scholarship/how-the-scholarship-works/">http://www.stepupforstudents.org/for-parents/reading-scholarship/how-the-scholarship-works/</a>.

You may now apply for the Reading Scholarship Account for the 2019-20 school year!

## Eligibility:

- Students who qualify are third through fifth graders in public school who scored a 1 or 2 on the third or fourth grade English Language Arts section of the Florida Standards Assessment in Spring 2019.
- Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis in the order all
  documents are received. Students who are classified as English Language
  Learners, and who are enrolled in a program or receiving services that are
  specifically designed to meet the instructional needs of English Language
  Learner students, will receive priority.

## Reminders:

- To successfully complete the application, you will need the following information which can be found on your student's Spring 2019 Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) report (see sample below to find the needed information):
  - 1. 1) Your student's grade level at the time of the Spring 2019 Florida Standards Assessment.
  - 2. 2) Your student's Florida Education Identifier (FLEID) number.
  - 3. 3) The Department of Education School Choice Code for the school your student attended and was administered the Spring 2019 Florida Standards Assessment.
  - 4. 4) The school district ID number. (Note: This is typically a two-digit number.)
  - 5. 5) Your student's Spring 2019 Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) English Language Arts (ELA) performance level.
  - 6. 6) Your student's Spring 2019 Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) English Language Arts (ELA) score.
- Please note: You may view your student's FSA score information through your Parent Portal account in myStudent. If you are unable to view this information, please contact your school's Assessment Coordinator.
  - Failure to provide the above information will result in your application being found incomplete.

• **Helpful tip:** Although not required, we strongly recommend that you upload your student's Spring 2019 Florida Standards Assessment information to make processing more efficient.

If you have any questions, please contact us by email at reading@sufs.org or by calling our Service Center at 877-735-7837. Our Service Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am. - 4:30 p.m. We are here to help you.

Best,

Step Up For Students